



It is an honor to serve as the President of Carriage Club for 2018. I'm fortunate to serve at this time because the Club has experienced an amazing rejuvenation over the past few years thanks, in large part, to the Club's three previous Presidents: Joe Howard, Kevin Childress, and Peter Sowden. Because of their steady leadership, the Club starts 2018 on a solid financial foundation. Peter, in

particular, made a number of bold, transformative, and necessary decisions over the last year that will benefit the membership well into the future. I'll miss serving with Peter, but I am also excited to get to work with our next President, Henry Bond.

I also want to thank the other departing Board Members for their valuable contributions: John Longan and Annie Palmer Noren. Finally, Michael Mally and his entire staff work hard every day to protect Carriage Club's proud legacy as one of the premiere clubs in the Midwest. I cannot remember a time when we had a better staff fully dedicated to the member experience.

2018 will be an exciting year for a number of reasons. First and foremost, the Club will break ground on its new tennis facility in July, 2018. The financing, design, and execution of the new tennis facility have been in the works for at least three years. Please join me in thanking the Carriage Club Tennis and Fitness Planning Committee for making this possible. In addition to me and Peter Sowden, the following Club members worked diligently to make our new tennis facility a reality: Joe Howard, Steve Miller, Ed Stevens, Carmen Sabates, David Kenner, Jamie Berg, Shannan McKee, SuSu Glynn, and Keith Connor. The Planning Committee selected Generator Studio to provide the architectural work. All of Generator Studio's proposed designs were bold, visionary, and beautiful. The Planning Committee unanimously agreed upon a design that is striking yet complements the Club's natural surroundings. After exploring a number of options, the Committee, with Generator Studio's assistance, selected Centric Projects to provide construction services. Thank you to everyone for the outstanding team effort.

In addition to the tennis facility, the Planning Committee will turn its focus to Phase 2 of the Club's capital improvement initiatives. Phase 2 involves significant renovations to the Coach House. For example, the Club has outgrown its already outstanding fitness facility thanks to Gregg Best and his staff. We are a victim of our own success

in some regards. Phase 2 will also include, among many other things, an entirely new fitness experience, larger hockey locker rooms, and upgraded dining facilities.

Last but not least, we are about to go live with an exciting new website which will be a user-friendly hub for every aspect of the member experience. Members will be able to schedule court time, reserve a spot in a fitness class, review an invoice, check the Club's calendar, and access many other services. A few of us have had an opportunity to view the website during the testing phase. Trust me, you will love it!

Through careful planning and renewed budgetary discipline, the Club is now able to make these long-term capital investments. Therefore, not only will the Club have a gorgeous new tennis facility in 2019, but it will likely be able to do so without an assessment from our members. I believe that our "no assessment" commitment is unique among Kansas City's premier country clubs.

I cannot fully express how honored I am to be the incoming President of Carriage Club. To me, the Carriage Club is much more than a country club. It's family. I have made lifetime friendships with my fellow members. My children (Ella 17 and Charlotte 15) have grown up at the Carriage Club. I'll never forget early morning swim practices, the ice shows, the Father / Daughter dances, the comradery of Morning Maniacs, and many great memories with my beautiful wife, Stephanie. It is a privilege to be part of the Carriage Club family, and I look forward to serving as President in 2018.

Sincerely,

Jim Lawrence  
President

## Board of Directors

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